

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. **If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.**

The applicant will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Objections

Claims 8 and 20 are objected to due to minor informalities. since these claims have been canceled, these objections are moot.

Claim 10 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form to include the elements of canceled claim 8 (as amended to remove antecedent basis problem noted in the Examiner's objection).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

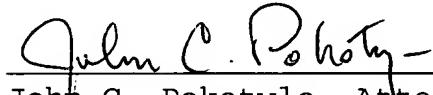
Claims 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,986,718 ("the Barwacz patent"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicant requests that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **November 9, 2005** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


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